



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Director, Community Development Commission
Director of Health Services

At the Budget Deliberations held June 26, 2006, the Board took the following action:

5

The following item was called up for consideration:

Chief Administrative Officer's status report on the development of
the Homeless and Housing program.

David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, and Lari Sheehan, Assistant
Administrative Officer, addressed the Board.

By common consent and there being no objection, the Board received and filed the
Chief Administrative Officer's attached report on the Los Angeles County Homeless
Prevention Initiative; and took various actions as indicated below:

5.1

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Molina and
Burke:

"The issue of homelessness in Los Angeles County affects
many families. As elected representatives we provide resources to
those families who are challenged with low wages, high housing
costs, and mental health and substance abuse issues.

"Children who arrive on Skid Row with their parents must be
assessed and placed in transitional housing, outside of Skid Row,
where they may regain emotional, social and educational stability
as soon as possible.

(Continued on Page 2)

5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.1 (Continued)

“We can best serve families by providing permanent tools to attain true self-sufficiency, such as case management, intensive mental health therapy, substance abuse treatment and supportive services.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Molina, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Agreed to the implementation of a demonstration project with Beyond Shelter to help 500 homeless families from Skid Row in twelve months to move into permanent housing in residential neighborhoods, and provide families with six full months of case management support to help them achieve stability and prevent future homelessness. This program will enroll families in the “Housing First” model and provide emergency and transitional housing assistance, while helping them move into rental housing. Case management and child-focused in-home parenting will be provided.
2. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to use \$2 million from the \$80 million designation: “Homeless and Housing Program” to fund the demonstration project with Beyond Shelter.
3. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate into the Beyond Shelter contract an evaluation component in order to assess the effectiveness of the services to the 500 families. The evaluation shall assess a family’s success in achieving the following:
 - Transitional/permanent housing;
 - Gainful employment;
 - Access to appropriate and necessary mental health or substance abuse treatment;
 - Educational stability for children;
 - Socialization/Recreational stability for children;
 - Services to assist domestic violence victims; and
 - Other supportive services which assist families to attain self-sufficiency;

(Continued on Page 3)

5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.1 (Continued)

4. Directed the Director of Health Services' Alcohol and Drug Program Administration to provide the Board with a report back in September 2006 on:
 - The current capacity of substance abuse detoxification and residential treatment beds and outpatient services;
 - Any gaps in services or waiting times in the current system; and
 - The amount of funding required to increase access for homeless persons requesting immediate substance abuse treatment.

5.2

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"The County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles have embarked upon a historic partnership to assist the number of homeless human beings sleeping on our public streets. The creation of a program to provide shelter during cold/wet weather has matured into the obvious need to provide year round shelter beds as an enhancement.

"The City of Los Angeles has committed \$1 million to transform the 800 cold/wet weather beds into year round shelter beds. As part of the partnership between the County and the City, it would be prudent for the County to match the City's contribution of \$1 million for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year. Such funding should be allocated from the \$80 million already identified to address the homeless crisis throughout Los Angeles."

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$1 million in one-time funding from the Designation for Homeless and Housing Programs to match the City of Los Angeles' \$1 million commitment for the transformation of the cold/wet weather beds to a year-round shelter program;

(Continued on Page 4)

5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.2 (Continued)

2. Delegated authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to execute an agreement with the City of Los Angeles for the expenditure of these funds, contingent upon the City's 100% match, not to exceed \$1 Million in one-time funding; and
3. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work in concert with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to report back quarterly with outcome data from these enhanced homeless shelter services.

5.3

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

"An image that has become a defining symbol for the homeless problem in Los Angeles County is of the mentally ill woman who was released to Skid Row from the Kaiser facility in Bellflower last year. Like many, I was appalled by that image; yet I believe that the cause of the situation arose from the many complications involved in assisting a hospital patient at risk of homelessness.

"Add to that the severe shortage of shelter beds, transitional housing and other kinds of support needed for this population, it is not surprising to me that we have outcomes for homeless patients that are clearly unacceptable.

"I believe that this is something we all must take responsibility for. We must do more to ensure that vulnerable patients are not released from the hospital until they are screened for any additional services or treatment and transitioned into an appropriate setting, while taking into account patient consent concerns and other logistics.

(Continued on Page 5)

5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.3 (Continued)

“We have a genuine opportunity to meaningfully address this tragic issue. The Housing Authority of Los Angeles County and the Department of Health Services have been working closely with the Los Angeles City Housing Authority to develop the Access Housing for Health pilot project. This program would provide Section 8 housing vouchers to any homeless person discharged from the hospital that meets certain criteria. Funding is required to appropriately shelter these individuals upon their release from the hospital for an extended period of time, while the Section 8 process takes place, and they can transition to permanent housing.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission and the Director of Health Services were instructed to report back within 7 days with a plan that identifies the necessary costs to fully implement the Access to Housing for Health (AHH) Pilot Project.

In addition, the Chief Administrative Officer was instructed to set aside \$1.5 million for the AHH Pilot Project from the \$80 million designation for homeless programs.

5.4

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Burke:

“Weingart Center Association provides 600 transitional housing beds to the homeless and a school and counseling/employment center in the downtown Los Angeles area. It is essential that we address the needs of Weingart Center Association to continue services to the homeless for individuals in the Skid Row area.”

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$900,000 in one-time funding from the \$80 million Homeless and Housing Program designation to fund the Weingart Center for its operational cost deficit.

(Continued on Page 6)

5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.4 (Continued)

After discussion, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisor Antonovich's motion be amended to instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to appropriate \$450,000 now from the Homeless and Housing Program designation to fund the Weingart Center; set aside the remaining \$450,000 in Provisional Financing Uses and revisit the matter in September 2006; and in the meantime attempt to meet and negotiate with the City of Los Angeles in an attempt to obtain a match of \$450,000 as their share of funding for the Weingart Center. Supervisors Antonovich and Burke accepted the amendment.

Supervisor Antonovich's motion, as amended by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, and seconded by Supervisor Burke, was unanimously carried.

5.5

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"Santa Monica has approximately 1,200 to 2,000 homeless persons at any point in time. It is estimated that 20% to 40% are chronically homeless. Many of these individuals engage in repeated interaction with law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

"One chronically homeless client, over the last three years, had 88 police contacts, 62 jail visits, and 48 paramedic calls. The City has conservatively estimated that its annual costs to provide police, paramedic and Santa Monica jail services to homeless individuals can reach \$8,000 per person. The associated costs to the County in jail, court and hospital expenses are undoubtedly much more.

"The City of Santa Monica funds a robust continuum of care which provides an extensive range of successful homeless services. The City has proposed a pilot Homeless Community Court which would add an additional tool to the continuum by serving chronically homeless clients whose ability to move forward toward self-sufficiency is hampered by outstanding legal violations, tickets, and warrants. The Court would also serve as a mechanism to compel individuals to seek services, and would help lessen the 'revolving door' impact on the court system of persons cited for repeated quality of life violations.

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5.1 through 5.5 (Continued)

5.5 (Continued)

“The total estimated County costs for a one year, half-day pilot would be \$476,237 (approximately \$42,000 in court costs, and \$434,237 for stabilization services which would support the goals of the court.) These costs would be highly leveraged with \$1,196,400 in services and permanent housing funded through the following City of Santa Monica programs: Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless and Addicted to Alcohol, the Santa Monica Housing Authority’s rental subsidy program for chronically homeless seniors and the Chronic Homeless Program Team.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Collaborate with the City of Santa Monica to establish a pilot Homeless Community Court for chronically homeless persons in Fiscal Year 2006-2007;
2. Fund a pilot half-day Homeless Community Court to be held once per month for an initial year, with the new County Homeless Prevention Initiative funding, not to exceed \$500,000;
3. Report back in 90 days on the progress of establishing this Homeless Community Court; and
4. Monitor and report back at the end of the initial year on the outcomes of this pilot project including any reduction in chronic homelessness in the Santa Monica area; and on the potential for replicating the Homeless Community Court model.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel